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4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
5 DISTRICT OF NEVADA  
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7 TAMIR HAMILTON,

8 Petitioner,

9 v.

10 WILLIAM GITTERE, *et al.*,

11 Respondents.  
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Case No. 3:18-cv-00555-RFB-WGC

**ORDER GRANTING MOTION  
FOR LEAVE TO FILE JUROR  
QUESTIONNAIRES UNDER SEAL  
(ECF NO. 24)**

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15 This action is a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254,  
16 by Tamir Hamilton, a Nevada prisoner sentenced to death. Hamilton, represented by  
17 appointed counsel, filed an Amended Habeas Petition on October 7, 2019 (ECF No. 22).

18 Along with his Amended Petition, on October 7, 2019 Hamilton filed several  
19 exhibits (ECF Nos. 23, 25), and a motion for leave to file certain of the exhibits under  
20 seal (ECF No. 24).

21 In the Motion for Leave to File Exhibits Under Seal (ECF No. 24), Hamilton  
22 requests leave to file under seal juror questionnaires from his trial, which were filed  
23 under seal in state court. Motion for Leave to File Juror Questionnaires Under Seal  
24 (ECF No. 24). Respondents did not respond to the motion.

25 There is a strong presumption in favor of public access to judicial filings and  
26 documents. See Nixon v. Warner Communication, Inc., 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978); see  
27 also Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006);  
28 Foltz v. State Farm Mut. Auto Ins. Co., 331 F.3d 1122, 1134 (9th Cir. 2003). However,

1 the court has inherent power over its own records and files, and access may be denied  
2 where the court determines that the documents may be used for "improper purposes."  
3 See Nixon, 435 U.S. at 598; Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1179; Hagestad v. Tragesser, 49  
4 F.3d 1430, 1433-34 (9th Cir. 1995). The Court finds that there is good cause for these  
5 exhibits to be filed under seal, as they contain personal information regarding the  
6 potential jurors.

7 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that Petitioner's Motion for Leave to File Juror  
8 Questionnaires Under Seal (ECF No. 24) is **GRANTED**. Petitioner is granted leave to  
9 file the exhibits at ECF No. 25 under seal. As those exhibits have already been filed  
10 under seal (ECF No. 25), no further action is necessary by the Clerk of Court in this  
11 regard.

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13 DATED this 1st day of November, 2019.

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16 RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II,  
17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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